

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT ADVICE

ESAA 12/2003

DATE OF INCIDENT: 29th January 2003
ETSA UTILITIES REFERENCE NO:FS 61

NUMBER OF PAGES: 1
(INCLUDING THIS SHEET)

Brief description of incident:

On Wednesday the 29th January, Glove & Barrier (G&B) personnel were cutting in a break on the Victor Harbor West 11 kV Feeder to complete the work associated with the erection of a HV dead-end disconnect fuse pole. Whilst cutting the last conductor to be turned back, arcing occurred between the Chance ratchet cutters & the conductor to the cross arm causing the feeder's protection to operate and lock out.

Extent of actual injury and/or damage:

- Recloser 1815 on the Victor Harbor Feeder was placed in “one shot to lock-out” and operated correctly.
- No injuries were sustained to personnel involved in the incident.

Additional Comments:

- Upon investigation it was found that the cutters had pieced and arced through two rubber Class 4 blankets wrapped over the cross arm.
- G&B operators were wearing all of the appropriate PPE for the task being performed (eg. Class 2 gloves & sleeves, helmets, leather gloves, overalls, safety glasses and safety footwear).
- All G&B operators are to ensure burrs or sharp edges are removed prior to installing insulating blankets on equipment.
- Protective covers and barriers are designed and rated to provide protection against inadvertent momentary or brush contact. As such, protective covers and barriers are not to be used in providing mechanical protection (eg. tools & equipment placed or rested upon them).

Local action to be taken to address any hazards:

1. Managers / co-ordinators / leaders to discuss details with employees at next work group meeting.
2. Copy of Construction & Maintenance Safety Alert to all notice boards.

FURTHER INFORMATION - CONTACT: Any enquires regarding this alert should be referred to Garry Davis - ETSA Utilities Safety Advisor. Phone (08) 8292 0163